

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 HA-05 (ISO) W

-----020259 291013Z /15

P 290850Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3601

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 4960

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, RP

SUBJECT: ELECTIONS: DEFENSE SECRETARY ON POST-ELECTORAL
RETRIBUTION

1. DURING FAREWELL CALL MARCH 29 ON DEFENSE SECRETARY ENRILE, AMBASSADOR ALLUDED TO HOPE THAT FERVOR OF CURRENT ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOT LEAD TO POST-ELECTORAL RETRIBUTIONS. AT FIRST ENRILE DISMISSED POSSIBILITY NOTING THAT HE AND PRESIDENT MARCOS HAVE BEEN THROUGH IT ALL TOGETHER SEVERAL TIMES BEFORE AND THAT MARCOS PLAYS THE GAME WITHOUT PERSONAL RANCOR. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, HOWEVER, ENRILE SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT IS SILENTLY FURIOUS AT THE PERSONAL INNUENDO DIRECTED BY THE OPPOSITION AT HIS FAMILY. WARMING TO THE SUBJECT, ENRILE SAID THAT WHEREAS MARCOS HIMSELF WOULD INITIATE NO RETRIBUTION, HIS FELLOW ILOCANOS AND OTHER FOLLOWERS MIGHT. IN THIS REGARD, ENRILE SUGGEST THAT LABAN CANDIDATE (AND FORMER CABINET SECRETARY) MECEDA MAY BE PARTICULARLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTACKS. AS AN UNGRATEFUL RENEGADE ILOCANO, MACEDA COULD BE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE TO SPONTANEOUS RETRIBUTION, ENRILE CONCLUDED, " I AM WORRIED FOR HIM".

2. REGARDING LABAN CANDIDATE AQUINO, ENRILE STRESSED THE DEPTH OF LONG-STANDING PERSONAL BITTERNESS THAT THE MARCOSES FEEL FOR THE IMPRISONED OPPOSITION LEADER.

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NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

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